

1 AN ACT relating to physician assistants.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 311.844 is amended to read as follows:

- 4 (1) To be licensed by the board as a physician assistant, an applicant shall:
- 5 (a) Submit a completed application form with the required fee;
- 6 (b) Be of good character and reputation;
- 7 (c) Be a graduate of an approved program; and
- 8 (d) Have passed an examination approved by the board within three (3) attempts.
- 9 (2) A physician assistant who is authorized to practice in another state and who is in
- 10 good standing may apply for licensure by endorsement from the state of his or her
- 11 credentialing if that state has standards substantially equivalent to those of this
- 12 Commonwealth.
- 13 (3) A physician assistant's license shall be valid for two (2) years and shall be renewed
- 14 by the board upon fulfillment of the following requirements:
- 15 (a) The holder shall be of good character and reputation;
- 16 (b) The holder shall provide evidence of completion, during the previous two (2)
- 17 years, of a minimum of one hundred (100) hours of continuing education
- 18 approved by the American Medical Association, the American Osteopathic
- 19 Association, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American
- 20 Academy of Physician Assistants, or by another entity approved by the board.
- 21 The one hundred (100) hours of continuing education required by this
- 22 paragraph shall include:
- 23 1. During the first two (2) years of licensure or ***through completed course***
- 24 ***curriculum in the holder's graduate education,*** ~~[prior to the first~~
- 25 ~~licensure renewal:~~
- 26 a. ~~One (1) continuing education course on the human~~
- 27 ~~immunodeficiency virus and acquired immunodeficiency~~

1 syndrome; and

2 b. ~~one~~ one and one-half (1.5) hours of continuing education in the
3 prevention and recognition of pediatric abusive head trauma, as
4 defined in KRS 620.020; and

5 2. If the license holder is authorized, pursuant to KRS 311.858(5), to
6 prescribe and administer Schedule III, IV, or V controlled substances, a
7 minimum of seven and one-half (7.5) hours of approved continuing
8 education relating to controlled substance diversion, pain management,
9 addiction disorders, use of the electronic system for monitoring
10 controlled substances established in KRS 218A.202, or any combination
11 of two (2) or more of these subjects; and

12 (c) The holder shall provide proof of current certification with the National
13 Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants.

14 ➔Section 2. KRS 311.854 is amended to read as follows:

15 (1) A physician shall not supervise a physician assistant without approval of the board.
16 Failure to obtain board approval as a supervising physician or failure to comply
17 with the requirements of KRS 311.840 to 311.862 or related administrative
18 regulations shall be considered unprofessional conduct and shall be subject to
19 disciplinary action by the board that may include revocation, suspension, restriction,
20 or placing on probation the supervising physician's right to supervise a physician
21 assistant.

22 (2) To be approved by the board as a supervising physician, a physician shall:

23 (a) Be currently licensed and in good standing with the board;

24 (b) Maintain a practice primarily within this Commonwealth. The board in its
25 discretion may modify or waive this requirement;

26 (c) Submit a completed application and the required fee to the board. The
27 application shall include but is not limited to:

- 1 1. A description of the nature of the physician's practice;
- 2 2. A statement of assurance by the supervising physician that the scope of
- 3 medical services and procedures described in the application or in any
- 4 supplemental information shall not exceed the normal scope of practice
- 5 of the supervising physician;
- 6 3. A description of the means by which the physician shall maintain
- 7 communication with the physician assistant when they are not in the
- 8 same physical location;
- 9 4. ~~{The name, address, and area of practice of one (1) or more physicians~~
- 10 ~~who agree in writing to accept responsibility for supervising the~~
- 11 ~~physician assistant in the absence of the supervising physician;~~
- 12 5. ~~—~~A description of the scope of medical services and procedures to be
- 13 performed by the physician assistant for which the physician assistant
- 14 has been trained in an approved program; and
- 15 5.16.~~—~~An outline of the specific parameters for review of countersignatures.
- 16 (3) Prior to a physician assistant performing any service or procedure beyond those
- 17 described in the initial application submitted to the board under subsection (2)(c) of
- 18 this section, the supervising physician shall supplement that application with
- 19 information that includes but is not limited to:
- 20 (a) A description of the additional service or procedure;
- 21 (b) A description of the physician assistant's education, training, experience, and
- 22 institutional credentialing;
- 23 (c) A description of the level of supervision to be provided for the additional
- 24 service or procedure;
- 25 (d) The location or locations where the additional service or procedure will be
- 26 provided; and
- 27 (e) Any changes to the specific parameters for review of countersignatures.

1 The initial and supplemental applications required under this section may be
2 submitted to the board at the same time.

3 (4) A physician who has been supervising a physician assistant prior to July 15, 2002,
4 may continue supervision and the physician assistant may continue to perform all
5 medical services and procedures that were provided by the physician assistant prior
6 to July 15, 2002. The supervising physician shall submit the initial application and
7 any supplemental application as required in this section by October 15, 2002.

8 (5) A physician may enter into supervision agreements with no more than four (4)
9 physician assistants and shall not supervise more than four (4) physician assistants
10 at any one (1) time. Application for board approval to be a supervising physician
11 shall be obtained individually for each physician assistant.

12 (6) The board may impose restrictions on the scope of practice of a physician assistant
13 or on the methods of supervision by the supervising physician upon consideration of
14 recommendations of the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee established in
15 KRS 311.842 after providing the applicant with reasonable notice of its intended
16 action and after providing a reasonable opportunity to be heard.